

GDOT Office of Planning

Georgia Statewide Truck Lanes Needs Identification Study

Project Fact Sheet

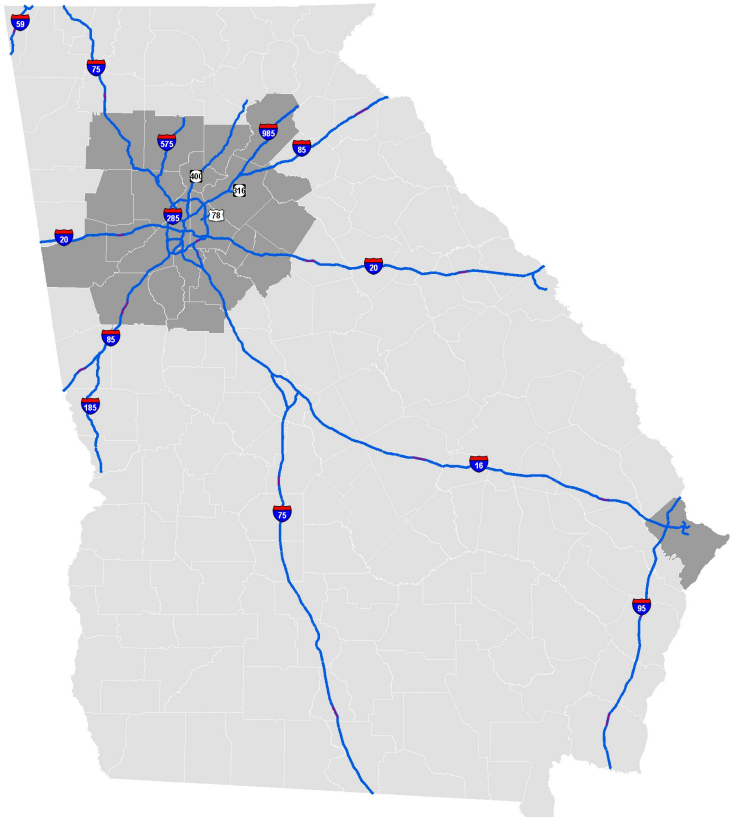
May 2007

What is the GDOT "Statewide Truck Lanes Needs Identification Study?"

The Statewide Truck Lanes Needs Identification Study is exploring the need for truck-only Lanes in Georgia. The study will identify specific locations (along existing roadway corridors) where truck-only lanes may be feasible and could improve travel conditions for trucks as well as for the entire state highway network. The study area includes all Georgia Interstate highways and some limited access facilities.

The Savannah-Chatham County area is a special focus of the study due to the large volume of truck traffic generated by the Port of Savannah. Every year, millions of tons of freight arriving at Georgia's ports are transferred to trucks and ultimately transported across the country on the Interstate system. The study is examining ways to facilitate truck movements between the Port, I-95, and I-16.

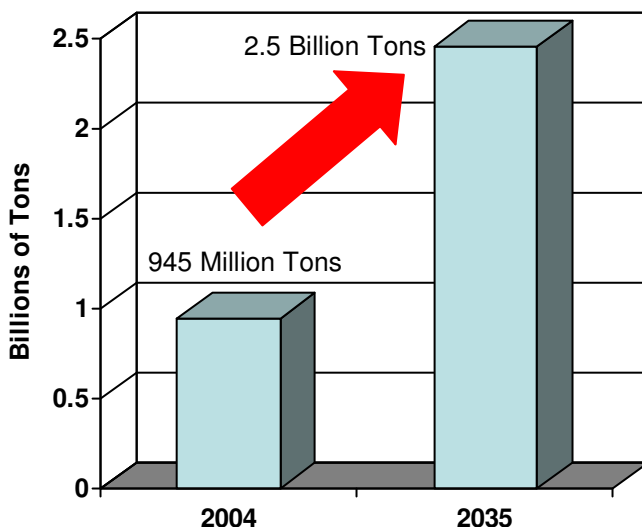
The study will also provide an implementation strategy for truck-only lanes across the entire state -- recommending which sections should be implemented first and how improvements might be financed



Potential Truck Lane Corridors for Study

Georgia Freight Facts

- Total tonnage of freight moving in Georgia is forecast to grow 160% by 2035.
- Trucks currently carry 86% of the freight moving through the state. This will increase to 88% in 2035.
- Forecast growth in truck vehicle miles traveled (151%) will surpass that of cars (90%) on all state roads through 2035.



What is a Truck Lane?

A truck lane is a dedicated lane or lanes on an Interstate or highway designated for use specifically by trucks.

Truck lanes could be built as “barrier separated” from general traffic lanes by using concrete barriers, reflective plastic cylinders known as pylons, jersey barriers, and others.

Truck lanes may have their own exclusive interchanges or have access to existing all-purposed interchanges.

The GDOT study is exploring truck lane policies including what types of trucks should be permitted to use the lane and the best design options for system efficiency.

What are some of the findings to date?

Based on preliminary analysis including truck origin-destination surveys, crash analysis, traffic counts, and future travel demand modeling, the most promising corridors for truck lanes could include:

- I-75 between the Tennessee state line and Macon
- I-85, I-20, and I-285 in metro Atlanta
- Near the Port of Savannah/Garden City Terminal area in Chatham County

Next Steps

In the coming months, the study will explore candidate corridors for truck lanes in-depth, assessing future travel demand for the lanes and addressing such questions as where interchanges may be located, the types of trucks that are permitted to use the lane, and what segments might be built first. Stay tuned for a follow up round of public meetings this fall!



Get Involved!

Visit the project website at www.gatrucklanestudy.com.

To learn more, submit comments, and view study documents

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